

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SUVA 00210 150451Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 /030 W

-----150459Z 042933 /22

R 142255Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5834

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS SUVA 0210

CANBERRA FOR RESOURCES ATTACHE MCINTYRE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, EMIN, FJ

SUBJECT: STRIKE CLOSES EMPEROR GOLD MINE

1. FIJI'S TEN MILLION DOLLAR GOLD INDUSTRY IS ON THE BRINK OF COLLAPSE FOLLOWING A MINEWORKERS STRIKE WHICH COMMENCED FEB. 14. THE EMPEROR GOLDMINING COMPANY SHUT DOWN THE MINE AT VATUKOULA BY ORDER OF THE MINE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DESPITE A PLEA BY THE MINISTER FOR LABOR, RATU DAVID TOGANI-VALU, WHO TRAVELED TO VATUKOULA TO TRY TO ARBITRATE THE DISPUTE. THE FIJI MINEWORKERS UNION IS PRESSING FOR A WAGE INCREASE FROM THE CURRENT 98 CENTS TO DOL 1.50 PER HOUR, EXTRA DAYS OF SICK LEAVE AND ANNUAL LEAVE, AND OTHER PERQUISITES. MINE OWNERS HAVE CHARACTERIZED THE DEMANDS AS CONCEIVED IN FANTASYLAND.

2. THE STRIKE HAS PUT 1300 MINERS OUT OF WORK, BUT WILL ACTUALLY AFFECT 7000-8000 RESIDENTS OF THE VATUKOULA AREA. THE MINE HAS BEEN SHUT DOWN BY STRIKES ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS IN THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, BUT MINE OFFICIALS SAY THAT THE COMPANY'S TENUOUS FINANCIAL POSITION WILL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR IT TO REOPEN, OR TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE UNION. GOLD
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PRODUCTION HAS DECLINED FROM THE 1970 LEVEL OF 108,000 OUNCES TO 69,000 OUNCES IN 1975, ALTHOUGH THE INDUSTRY HAS BEEN BUOYED BY PREVAILING WORLD PRICES. SINCE GOLD CURRENTLY MAKES UP 7.4 PER CENT OF FIJI'S TOTAL EXPORTS, HOWEVER, CLOSURE OF THE MINE WILL HAVE AN IMPACT COUNTRY-WIDE.
FLANEGIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOLD, MINING INDUSTRY, LABOR STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SUVA00210
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770052-1150
Format: TEL
From: SUVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770243/aaaablyt.tel
Line Count: 61
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0252cec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3325772
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STRIKE CLOSES EMPEROR GOLD MINE
TAGS: ELAB, EMIN, FJ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0252cec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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